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A COMPANION OF 55 CANCRI

In the determination of the parallax of Boss 2378 one of the comparison stars showed a considerable proper motion; this star is located 1.1 east and 0.9 south of Boss 2380 = 55 *Cancrī*; its position for 1900.0 is, accordingly,

$$\alpha = 8^h 46^m 44^s \quad \delta = +28^\circ 42'$$

The proper motion, derived from the plates, is

$$\begin{array}{ll} \mu_\alpha = -0.''480 & \mu_\delta = -0.''250 \\ \text{or } \mu = 0.''541 & \text{in } p = 242.^\circ 5 \end{array}$$

The agreement of this motion with that of 55 *Cancrī* ($\mu = 0.''55$ in $p = 243.^\circ 9$) is so close that we may safely conclude that the two stars are moving together. The relative parallax of the companion as found from 16 exposures is $+0.''042 \pm 0.''018$; the absolute parallax is then $+0.''044$. For the parallax of 55 *Cancrī* we have the following determinations:

$$\begin{array}{ll} \Pi_{ab} = +0.''099 & \text{Jost} \\ & +0.''068 \text{ Yale} \\ & +0.''060 \text{ Adams} \end{array}$$

The last is an unpublished value derived by Mr. Adams by means of spectroscopic methods.

Supposing the parallax of both stars to be the same, we find as the weighted mean value $\Pi = +0.''061 \pm 0.''010$; this gives 1360 astronomical units as the distance between the two stars.

The faint star is not given in the astrographic catalogue of Oxford, altho one of the three plates of this region shows stars as faint as 13^m.5. Mr. Seares has determined the photovisual magnitude to be 12.98 and the photographic, 14.53; using the parallax mentioned above this gives 11.9 as the absolute photovisual magnitude.

A. VAN MAANEN.

MAGNITUDES AND COLORS OF THREE FAINT STARS OF LARGE PROPER MOTION

Measures of the brightness of faint stars having large proper motions are of importance because of the low luminosity almost invariably to be associated with such stars. Large proper motion generally means that the moving object is among the nearest neighbors of the solar system; if, in spite of this circumstance, the